

Village Board of Trustees  
Special Meeting – Budget Meeting  
April 3, 2012

Present: Mayor Eric Constance, Trustee Peter Daly, Trustee Lawrence Barone, Trustee John LaDuc  
Treasurer Jim Yuhas

Mayor Constance opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:33 p.m.

A letter was received from the Fire Department requesting an increase to \$60,000 from \$55,000 there was general agreement.

Library was receiving \$13,000 a year from the Village, they have requested \$13,500. Discussion regarding the reason, and there was general agreement.

Lift station at Boulton's Beach was set for \$40,000 last year, need to add \$30,000 this year and the following fiscal another \$30,000 year to get it up to \$100,000 to replace the entire lift station. Has been a constant repair issue with motors underwater. Funds will be from the water and sewer fund only.

Need to replace one of the DPW trucks. The replacement vehicle needs a boom on the back for lifting, and plows. The current vehicle has severe rust. It will used to plow and hoist. It will cost approximately \$8,000 to get the vehicle running properly. The cost of a new DPW truck would be \$15,000 - 1/3 cost from sewer, 1/3 from water and 1/3 from general fund since the truck is used in service of all parts. Mayor Constance suggested we wait to replace the truck closer to winter. DPW Foreman, John Madlin noted that the 2002 truck is due for inspection and will require \$8,000 in repairs to pass inspection. There are 3 utility trucks and the red truck that can not be used in winter. Discussion ensued regarding the cost and benefit. Trustee Daly noted he has looked over the truck and it does require a lot of work. Mayor Constance suggested the money be written into the budget but it does not have to be spent until we vote on it. Topic tabled.

Economic Development Committee – Marketing Director – New Position

The Board discussed the cost and necessity of the position. Should the job be created on a trial position? Should it be considered a consultant? What will happen if the Town does not want to pay for half the cost? Discussion continued regarding oversight by the Chamber of Commerce, or a committee which included the chamber.

Suggestion that the position be a one year position with possible renewal.

The position should be responsible to the town and village leaders. They are representing the entire village and the entire town, not just Main Street. There was general agreement that the position should be supported and encouraged.

Sewer and water rates – the Board reviewed the average household water use. The Treasurer suggests a reduction in the minimum fee to \$115 per quarter for water and \$145 per quarter for sewer. He also suggested the minimum number of gallons be raised to 5000gal per quarter. There was general agreement.

The sewer rate for a vacant lot will be ¼ of a unit per law (\$36.25 per quarter). There was discussion about water and sewer rates and review of the sewer law and units charged.

Reviewed payroll increases for full time and hourly village employees, at 2.5%. Changed the annual rebate for not taking insurance for family coverage to the same as 2 person (\$4,000). John Laduc asked if the board would be putting something into the budget for a vacation sellback policy and that he would like to work on the policy and he asked the board what should be offered. There was general agreement that there should be no vacation buy back.

There was discussion regarding increasing the fee for summer recreation program. Recreation Commission is reviewing the requirements and mandates from the state and the costs associated.

Trustee Daly noted that 68% of the attendees are from the Town and perhaps there should be additional support from the town.

Police Department - Mayor Constance recommended reducing the dollars in the salary line. Treasurer Yuhas provided the break down of the salaries in the past year and Mayor Constance recommended removing two of the officers from the roster and maintain the rest of the staff with increased community presence. The Board discussed the amount of money spent per amount of crime that is actually processed.

The Board discussed the treatment of tourists and maintaining a balance. The police are a quality of life issue that allows us to attend to problems locally and with immediate intent. Discussion regarding a police report at each board meeting. There was general agreement to reduce the salary budget line to \$35,000.

Mayor Constance reviewed PILOT program for Lawler Realty Millcreek apartments. 50% of tax at full assessment (with the apartments built) will bring in more tax money than 100% of the tax assessment as an undeveloped property. The Town and School support the program. The Board discussed the need for the PILOT program; and the subsidizing of development. Lawler Realty says the apartments will not be built without the PILOT program. The Board discussed the additional water and sewer units to be added to the village system.

Trustee Barone reminded the board that they have already invested a lot in the project over the last thirty years. The PILOT would require the project to be complete in three years and maintained for ten years before they can sell it. Discussion regarding responsibility of the infrastructure repair and what the village will take over in the future.

Fireworks – left \$5,000 in the budget based on the feedback from the public in favor of the fireworks. Discussion regarding signage noting the fireworks are sponsored by the village and capitalizing on the investment. General agreement that the fireworks will continue this year.

Citizen of the Year. Suggestion – Murray Maxon who has contributed significantly. There was discussion also about other worthy nominations.

Discussion about adding \$50,000 for the Bicentennial Trail just in case it is needed and this will mainly cover the materials and fence needed at Madison Barracks along the creek trail.

Bicentennial Celebration –there was general agreement to add \$5,000 to the budget line so that there is \$20,000 to spend on the celebration.

Fuel tank in the DPW area needs to be rehabilitated, and made safe and legal; discussion ensued regarding options to build one tank this year and one tank next year.

Ontario Shores water and sewer annual debt payment charges - sewer debt payment will be \$430; and water debt payment will be \$190.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31pm made by Trustee Daly second by Mayor Constance.  
All in favor.

Respectfully,  
Gertrude Karris  
Village Clerk